

# WILMINGTON FACT SHEET

*Building a Stronger Community*

City of Wilmington North Carolina



## City of Wilmington

### At A Glance

- One of the oldest cities in North Carolina
- Incorporated in 1739
- Population: 102,000 [2009 Estimate]
- Demographics: 72.7% White; 21.8% African American; 3.7% Hispanic; 1.8% Other

### Government

- The City of Wilmington is governed by a non-partisan City Council consisting of a Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem, and five Council members.
- Elections are held every two years.
- The Mayor serves a two-year term and Council members serve staggered four-year terms.
- Wilmington is governed by a Council-Manager form of government – City Council sets policy and direction; the City Manager oversees day-to-day operations of the organization.

### City Organization

- 11 departments
- Approximately 981 employees
- Public safety accounts for almost half of all city staff and 45% of the General Fund
- City maintains:
  - 367 miles of roads
  - 289 miles of sidewalks
  - 718 acres of parks
  - 93 acres of landscape/greenways

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To provide quality services that enhances the safety, livability, and prosperity of our community.

### Council Meetings

- City Council meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at City Hall at 6:30 pm.
- Watch Council meetings live on:
  - GTV8, Time Warner Cable
  - Website, [wilmingtonnc.gov](http://wilmingtonnc.gov)

### Myth vs. Reality

**Myth:**  
City government keeps getting bigger.

**Reality:**  
The city doubled in size from 26 square miles to 52 square miles in the 1990s as a result of annexations, and the population increased by 41%. However, the number of staff per capita (per every 1,000 residents) has actually decreased.

1997-1998  
Population: 64,513  
Staff: 733  
11 employees for every 1,000 citizens

2010-11  
Population: 102,000  
Staff: 981  
9 employees for every 1,000 citizens

[wilmingtonnc.gov](http://wilmingtonnc.gov)

## Information

### Mayor and City Council 341.7815

- Bill Saffo, Mayor
- Earl Sheridan, Mayor Pro-Tem
- Kevin O'Grady
- Laura W. Padgett
- Charles H. Rivenbark Jr.
- Ronald W. Sparks, P.E.
- Kristi A. Tomey

### City Manager's Office 341.7810

- Sterling Cheatham, Manager
- Tony Caudle, Deputy Manager

### Citizen Information Sources

- Phone: 341.7800
- Web: [www.wilmingtonnc.gov](http://www.wilmingtonnc.gov)
- Facebook: [cityofwilmington](https://www.facebook.com/cityofwilmington)
- TV: GTV8, Time-Warner Cable Channel 8

### City Services A to Z

- Assistance ..... 341.7800
- Emergency ..... Dial 911
- Wilmington Police ..... 343.3600  
[non-emergency]
- Wilmington Fire ..... 341.7846  
[non-emergency]
- Parking..... 762.5678
- Parks Hotline ..... 341.7852
- Recreation Programs .... 341.7855
- \* Stormwater/Drainage ... 341.4646
- Street Maintenance ..... 341.7879
- Trash/Recycling..... 341.7875
- Code Enforcement..... 341.3266
- Water/Sewer..... 332.6550

## City Budget

Total 2010-11 Budget: \$123,727,915

General Fund (services such as public safety, streets) \$84 million

Enterprise Fund (fee-based, self-supporting services) \$18 million

### Budget Quick Facts

- The city spends almost the same amount on public safety and debt payments each year as it receives in property taxes.
- The property tax rate is \$.37 per \$100 assessed valuation for FY 2010-11.
- The value of one penny on the property tax rate is equal to approximately \$1.4 million.
- Wilmington's property tax rate is the second lowest of North Carolina 10 largest cities.

### Where the money comes from



### Where the money goes

